

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Kindly replace the original abstract (page 56) with the following substitute abstract.

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~An object of the present invention is to provide an information embedding/tamper detecting apparatus and method capable of distinguishing between changes caused by image processing and intentional image tampering, and further capable of localizing, on a regional basis, a tampered position on an image.~~

An object of the present invention is to provide an information embedding/tamper detecting apparatus and method capable of distinguishing between changes caused by image processing and intentional image tampering, and further capable of localizing, on a regional basis, a tampered position on an image. A tamper-detection-information embedding apparatus 1 divides the image into a plurality of frequency bands to obtain transform coefficients, and then generates a pseudo-random number series by using key data, and further generates authentication data. The key data and the authentication data are embedded in the transform coefficients of MRA and MRR, respectively. the image in which the information is embedded is reconstructed by using MRA and MRR. A tamper-detecting apparatus 2 extracts the key data from MRA obtained by dividing the image into frequency bands and generates the authentication data assumed to have been embedded, and further extracts the embedded information from MRR. The image is divided in to a plurality of blocks composed of a predetermined number of pixels. For each block, an information series embedded in the transform coefficients of MRR representing the same spatial region as the unit block is compared, for verification, with the corresponding authentication data series so that the tamper is determined on a regional basis.